## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

KUROSAWA, Miki, et al.

Divisioanl of

Appln. No.: 09/549,498 Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: LASER BEAM MACHINING METHOD FOR WIRING BOARD, LASER BEAM

MACHINING APPARATUS FOR WIRING BOARD, AND CARBONIC ACID GAS

LASER OSCILLATOR FOR MACHINING WIRING BOARD

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

## Delete the paragraph bridging pages 2, 3, and 4, and insert:

In the prior art, a machining method for the conduction hole includes, for example, drill machining using a rotary milling cutter. Further, a machining method for grooving or cutting for an outside shape includes, for example, router machining using a rotary milling cutter. On the other hand, in recent years, higher density wiring has been desired for higher performance of an electronic device. A more multi-layered and smaller printed board is required to meet the above requirement. Further, it is essential to provide a finer hole diameter of the conduction hole for this purpose. With the current state of the art, the conduction hole is generally provided in the